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Argument

1 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
2 SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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3 NEW JERSEY CARPENTERS HEALTH
4 FUND, ET AL.,

Plaintiffs,

5 v.

08 CV 5653 (PAC)

6 DLJ MORTGAGE CAPITAL, INC.,
7 CREDIT SUISSE, MANAGEMENT,
8 LLC, f/k/a CREDIT SUISSE FIRST
9 BOSTON MORTGAGE SECURITIES
CORPORATION, ET AL.,

Defendants.

10 -----x

11 New York, N.Y.
12 November 8, 2012
3:00 p.m.

13 Before:

14 HON. PAUL A. CROTTY,

15 District Judge

16 APPEARANCES

17 COHEN MILSTEIN SELLER & TOLL, P.L.L.C.
Attorneys for Plaintiffs
18 BY: JOEL P. LAITMAN

19 BINGHAM MCCUTCHEN, LLP
Attorneys for Defendants
20 BY: SCOTT E. ECKAS

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1 (Case called)

2 MR. LAITMAN: Joel Laitman, for the plaintiff.

3 THE COURT: Who is with you?

4 MR. LAITMAN: Michael Eisenkraft and Kenneth Rehns.

5 THE COURT: OK. Mr. Eisenkraft, Mr. Rehns.

6 MR. ECKAS: Scott Eckas, of Bingham McCutchen. With
7 me at counsel table is my partner Susan Hoffman. Also with me
8 at counsel table are my colleagues Colleen Loughlin and Jawad
9 Muaddi.

10 THE COURT: Mr. Laitman, do you want to go first?

11 MR. LAITMAN: Yes, your Honor.

12 As your Honor is aware, we've made a motion for
13 reconsideration to reinstate the three offerings that were
14 dismissed on standing grounds as a result of the Goldman
15 decision by the Second Circuit. Just to cut very directly to
16 the ruling in Goldman and it's applicability to us, in our
17 complaint, just as in the Goldman complaint, we allege
18 Paragraphs 154 to 160 that the shelf registration which was the
19 registration that each of the four offerings was issued from
20 contained underwriting misstatements and that's the identical
21 facts that were in Goldman.

22 Also identical in Goldman is, as in this case, the
23 complaint alleges that has originator specific allegations that
24 unite the offering that our client brought on with the
25 offering -- with each the offerings, the three offerings at

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1 issue.

2 So, for example, there are in the complaint specific
3 allegations pertaining to New Century. New Century was the
4 originator in the 2006-5 that our client bought from and is
5 also an originator in 2007-2. WMC is an originator in 2005-6
6 and also an originator in 2006-4 and accredited is an
7 originator in the 2006-5 and also in the 2006-6. And the
8 complaint --

9 THE COURT: So there's two with a common 2006-5 and
10 2007-2 have the same originator, right, and the others have
11 different originators?

12 MR. LAITMAN: No. No. Each -- the 2006-5 has three
13 originators, New Century, WMC and accredited. And what the
14 Second Circuit said is we have class standing to represent
15 offerings that emanated from the same shelf registration that
16 has a common originator with the 2006-5. I think that has an
17 originator in common with those three. So there are three
18 offerings at issue that we are seeking reinstatement.
19 2007-2 --

20 THE COURT: Right.

21 MR. LAITMAN: -- 2006-4 and 2006-6. 2007-2 has in
22 common with our offering, our plaintiff's offering New Century
23 as an originator.

24 THE COURT: So 2006-5 and 2007-2 have New Century.

25 MR. LAITMAN: Correct.

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1 THE COURT: New Century was the sole originator for
2 both?

3 MR. LAITMAN: Not the sole. They were one of the
4 originators in both offerings and that's what the Second
5 Circuit said. It does not have to be sold. In fact, in the
6 Second Circuit case the common originators were, the one the
7 plaintiff bought from was Green Point and Wells Fargo.

8 THE COURT: Yeah, but it's also clear from the Second
9 Circuit's decision it was not Green Point and -- what was the
10 other one?

11 MR. LAITMAN: Wells Fargo.

12 THE COURT: Then not part of the class action.

13 MR. LAITMAN: That's correct. But no one is
14 disputing -- the defendants are not disputing that New Century
15 was an originator in 06-5 our clients' offering. WMC and
16 accredited were originators in our client's offering and that
17 those are in common with each of these three other offerings.
18 So we have the common originator.

19 THE COURT: I'll have to go back and check but my
20 recollection is that New Century was the sole originator. And
21 you are telling me, Mr. Laitman, that, I am incorrect?

22 MR. LAITMAN: You are incorrect.

23 THE COURT: OK.

24 MR. LAITMAN: It's one of the originators.

25 THE COURT: I understand there to be more than one but

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1 I thought it was the sole. You are saying it's not the sole.

2 MR. LAITMAN: It's one of the originators.

3 THE COURT: Where do I find that in your complaint?

4 MR. LAITMAN: We cite to the prospectus. The
5 prospectus, actually, gives you the percentages of the
6 originators greater than ten percent and so it's, specifically,
7 laid out. It's not a disputed fact.

8 THE COURT: Right.

9 MR. LAITMAN: I believe and my memory is that in the
10 06-5 New Century was, approximately, 33 percent of all the
11 loans in the offering. And then you had other originators that
12 had lesser percentages but the percentages under the second
13 circuit decision is not an issue. It could be as little as --

14 THE COURT: One percent.

15 MR. LAITMAN: -- one percent. It's the commonalty of
16 originator.

17 THE COURT: That's right. I am reading -- I don't
18 know what the cite is on this, the ANICA against -- IPW against
19 Goldman Sacks. I don't have the page but it says:

20 However to the extent certain offerings were backed by
21 loans originated by originators common to those backing 2007-5
22 and 2007-10 then that's sufficiently similar. And the
23 percentages vary 29, 36, 9, 3 and so the percentages really
24 don't make my difference so long as they're this common and
25 that's your point.

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1 MR. LAITMAN: That's exactly right. And that is
2 undisputed. It is undisputed in this case that we have common
3 originators. And just like Goldman we have a shelf offering
4 that's responsible for emanating from which all four offerings
5 emanate from and that those guidelines are actually, in our
6 case, are reiterated identically in each of the prospectuses at
7 issue. And I would just refer your Honor to Exhibit 9 in the
8 Eisenkraft Affidavit because what we did was --

9 THE COURT: You pulled out all the common
10 statements --

11 MR. LAITMAN: Right.

12 THE COURT: -- and the shelf registration.

13 MR. LAITMAN: And each of the three -- well, our
14 offering and then each of three offerings at issue.

15 THE COURT: Tell me why it's not -- there's also an
16 argument about the statute of limitations.

17 MR. LAITMAN: OK. The statute of limitations argument
18 breaks out into, actually, two pieces. The defendants take the
19 position that with respect to the 200-6 and 2006-4, OK, with
20 respect to those two offerings the Court had already determined
21 using the inquiry notice standard that those claims were
22 time-barred. That argument fails for two reasons.

23 First, what has happened in the Second Circuit since
24 your Honor made the ruling on the intervention motion that
25 they're referring to is that the Second Circuit and the city of

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1 Pontiac has said that with respect to the Exchange Act claims
2 the accrual period for the Exchange Act is no longer determined
3 on inquiry notice. It is no longer when a reasonable investor
4 should have known of the misstatement or omission.

5 What the new standard is in the Second Circuit
6 applying Merck is that it's no longer inquiry notice. It's the
7 point in time that the claim would have survived the motion to
8 dismiss under 12(b)(6). And what has happened in the Southern
9 District is eight district courts have ruled in the context of
10 these mortgage backed securities, have ruled that the city of
11 Pontiac case from the Second Circuit applies to the Securities
12 Act and that's the accrual period that should be used.

13 So the inquiry notice accrual period is no longer the
14 appropriate accrual period for purposes of the statute of
15 limitations. And in our case the complaint that survived the
16 motion to dismiss relied heavily -- and your Honor's decision
17 focused on it -- on the collapse in the ratings from Triple A
18 to junk for most of these bonds. The point is that that did
19 not occur until after one year prior to the filing of the
20 amended complaint. That is, after March 23, 2008. So the data
21 that's relied upon in the complaint that survived dismissal
22 which is now the new standard for the accrual of the statute of
23 limitations, the data is within one year. It was 2009 data.

24 So for the two offerings that -- our first point is
25 that under the current standard for statute of limitations the

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1 two offerings, 2006-4 and the 2006-6, the notice did not accrue
2 until well after the date that was in the intervention
3 decision. Your Honor used December 20, 2007. Even more
4 importantly, your Honor didn't make a finding that that was --
5 we do not believe that your Honor made a finding that December
6 20, 2007 was the inquiry notice date. Your Honor -- using your
7 Honor's language, assumed that that was the date based on a
8 statement that was made in the footnote in the movant's brief.

9 However, when you look at the downgrade evidence it
10 was very controverted as of that date. So even if you didn't
11 accept the notion that the standard has changed in the Second
12 Circuit, under the inquiry notice standard it was controverted
13 because while Moody's downgraded the bonds in 2007 SMP and
14 other rating agencies on the very same bonds kept them at very
15 high Triple A ratings or Double A ratings. And so there's no
16 basis to dismiss on statute of limitations grounds because
17 under the Stair case in the Second Circuit and it's been well
18 established in order to dismiss on statute of limitations
19 ground it's got to be uncontroverted.

20 Here that date that your Honor used in the
21 Intervention decision and we've now annexed as exhibits, the
22 evidence showing it was directly controverted while one rating
23 agency in 2007 downgraded to junk many other rating agencies
24 kept these at very high investment grade ratings. And so that
25 cannot be -- the December 2007 inquiry notice date cannot be

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1 the basis for dismissing on statute of limitations grounds those
2 two offerings. So whether when you apply the correct standard,
3 that is the city of Pontiac standard, certainly, the claim
4 could not have been pled prior to one year from the filing the
5 amended complaint. And even if you filed the old inquiry
6 notice standard for those two offerings, there was controverted
7 evidence that no reasonable investor would have begun to
8 investigate a misstatement with respect to these bonds while
9 SMP or Moody's or one of the other rating agencies maintained a
10 very high rating on the bonds.

11 The last point that I wanted to make, your, is with
12 respect to the 20078-2 offering there is, absolutely, no basis,
13 no argument even for dismissal on statute of limitations
14 grounds. Your intervention decision didn't deal with that
15 offering. That's number one.

16 Number two, the reason we put in a footnote the
17 December 20, 2007 inquiry notice date and that's the one your
18 Honor adopted, the reason we put in that is because that was
19 the first date that the Triple A bonds were downgraded to junk.

20 In the 2007-2 offering it is undisputed that the first
21 time that that happened was April 2008. So it was within the
22 year prior to the filing of the complaint where the claims with
23 respect to that offering were first alleged. So under any
24 analysis if you use the inquiry notice analysis, the exact
25 analysis that your Honor used in the intervention decision

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1 which we don't think is appropriate for all the reasons I've
2 said, but if you apply that exact analysis this is not
3 time-barred by the statute of limitations.

4 THE COURT: So your point then, Mr. Laitman, is sum up
5 in 25 words or less, what is it? We should amend the pleadings
6 to allow in light of ANICA, the Goldman Sacks decision and the
7 city of Pontiac decision, we should amend the -- allow you to
8 amend the pleadings so that you have standing under Rule 23 to
9 bring the claims on behalf of purchasers of all of 2006-5,
10 2007-2, 2006-6 and 2006-2.

11 MR. LAITMAN: That's correct.

12 THE COURT: And there is no impediment in the statute
13 of limitations.

14 MR. LAITMAN: There is no impediment in the statute of
15 limitation.

16 THE COURT: Why don't you save five minutes for
17 rebuttal.

18 Mr. Eckas. Thank you, Mr. Laitman.

19 MR. ECKAS: Thank you, your Honor. May I stand here?

20 THE COURT: Whatever is most convenient for you.

21 MR. ECKAS: Thank you. I have a stack of papers in
22 front of me so that is very helpful.

23 Your Honor, we're here today on the plaintiff's motion
24 for reconsideration of the Court's motion to dismiss on the
25 basis of standing three transactions. Plaintiff has not moved,

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1 at least at this time, for the Court to reconsider its decision
2 in the intervention motion which is where the Court made its
3 rulings on statute of limitations. I bring that up at the
4 beginning and I'll explain a little bit more in just a moment,
5 your Honor, to highlight the fact that in our view there is a
6 difference between whether someone has standing and whether the
7 statute of limitations has run.

8 THE COURT: All right.

9 MR. ECKAS: We will explain why we think that the
10 Goldman case in fact, when properly understood does not provide
11 standing.

12 THE COURT: Let's take that one up first.

13 MR. ECKAS: Certainly, your Honor.

14 As we understand the Goldman case, your Honor, it
15 certainly recognizes and approves of the generally accepted
16 meaning of standing, that being someone must have a personal
17 injury in order to bring suit.

18 THE COURT: OK. Now, let's go over the basics. You
19 agree that the plaintiffs have Article III standing?

20 MR. ECKAS: For 2006-5, yes, we do, your Honor.

21 THE COURT: Not for the others?

22 MR. ECKAS: We do not, that's correct, your Honor.

23 THE COURT: That's just what -- isn't that what the
24 Court held, even if you had Article III standing then you had
25 statutory standing, then the issue was whether or not you had

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1 standing for Rule 23 purposes. And if you had Article III
2 standing, and they do, with at least they had been injured,
3 right, as to 2006-5, then they have statutory standing as to
4 that as well. So they have standing. They belong here in the
5 courthouse.

6 MR. ECKAS: Against the 2006-5 we would concur with
7 that, your Honor. As your Honor knows they did not purchase in
8 the other deals.

9 THE COURT: Yes, I understand.

10 MR. ECKAS: The issue then becomes --

11 THE COURT: Under the Second Circuit they only
12 purchased ANICA IBPEW purchased 2007-5 and 2007-10 and yet,
13 they were allowed to proceed on a number of our trusts simply
14 because they were common originators.

15 MR. ECKAS: We don't --

16 THE COURT: They had not purchased 2007-3 or 2007-4
17 and 2007-6 but there are Article III standing under statutory
18 standing was enough to get over those hurdles as I understand
19 the decision.

20 MR. ECKAS: If I may, your Honor, I believe we read
21 the decisions slightly different. In particular, I am focusing
22 on the end of the second paragraph in the decision which is the
23 introduction to the decision. And in this the Second Circuit
24 points to the fact that there must be similar or identical
25 misrepresentations in the offering documents. I am associated

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1 with certificates originated about the same lenders. So it's
2 not enough that there just happens to be overlapping
3 originators which is not unlikely because there often are
4 hundreds but there needs to be overlapping originators relating
5 to the disclosures that were allegedly incorrect.

6 THE COURT: Well, it's an interesting thing about how
7 you read Second Circuit opinions. They start out one way but
8 when they came to the conclusion at the end and found out and
9 they disclosed to us for the first time why Judge Cedarbaum was
10 in error, they point to the common originators. That is what's
11 important, not the language with the shelf registration, not
12 the language in the supplemental prospectus but the fact that
13 there were common originators. That's the way I read it,
14 Mr. Eckas.

15 MR. ECKAS: OK. Your Honor, I guess we're focusing on
16 the similar set of concerns language and as we had read that
17 and interpreted it and had tried to make a chart that we'd
18 hoped would be of assistance it seemed to us that what the
19 Court's focused on is if someone had standing was injured and
20 the basis of their injury i.e. the alleged misrepresentation
21 also formed the basis for the other person's injury, then it
22 could proceed on behalf of other person as well.

23 So, for example --

24 THE COURT: Even though they hadn't purchased that?

25 MR. ECKAS: Yes. So we would agree, your Honor, that

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1 under a reading of the Second Circuit's opinion there are
2 situations where a plaintiff can represent purchasers of
3 securities in which the plaintiff did not itself purchase. We
4 just do not read it nearly as broadly as plaintiffs do. For
5 us, your Honor, there has to be identical misrepresentations.
6 And there has to be overlapping originators.

7 If it's any help to your Honor in our memorandum of
8 law --

9 THE COURT: Yes.

10 MR. ECKAS: -- we have done a chart on page five where
11 we've attempted to set forth that information.

12 THE COURT: Yes.

13 MR. ECKAS: And what we have put in there, your Honor,
14 is the cases in which --

15 THE COURT: On page five in the third column, the one
16 that says HEMT 2006-6?

17 MR. ECKAS: It's a chart such as this, your Honor.
18 Yes, that is correct, your Honor.

19 THE COURT: The date you say is 12/29/2007. It should
20 be 2006, correct?

21 MR. ECKAS: Yes, it should be, your Honor.

22 THE COURT: Just to show you, Mr. Eckas, that I read
23 these.

24 MR. ECKAS: I read this too, your Honor.

25 THE COURT: I hope you voted.

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1 MR. ECKAS: Anyway this sets forth what we believe
2 matters in terms of overlap, your Honor, and that we believe is
3 when the originators are disclosed and when the alleged
4 misstatements are disclosed, that then you are allowed to
5 represent people even if you didn't personally buy the
6 certificate because then in the Second Circuit's language a
7 common sense concern is raised. The concern as we understand
8 them would be the alleged misrepresentation as opposed to
9 concerns being the fact that there may have been originator
10 that originated a loan in each of the two transactions.

11 THE COURT: What do you say about Mr. Laitman's
12 Exhibit 9 where the representations seemed to be highly
13 similar?

14 MR. ECKAS: There are three levels of disclosure here,
15 your Honor.

16 THE COURT: This is the shelf registration?

17 MR. ECKAS: Yes. There's the shelf registration
18 statement which as your Honor knows contains as many blanks as
19 it does words. It's in essence a model of what will come. The
20 next level down, of course, is the base prospectus. And that,
21 basically, says we're going do a series of transactions that
22 have the following general characteristics in common. It
23 discloses nothing about each individual specific transaction
24 such that an investor really could evaluate. For example, it
25 really doesn't disclose the average FICO scores or where the

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1 properties are located, the loan to value ratios, anything like
2 that.

3 So the next level down, your Honor, is what's often
4 called a supplemental prospectus and that's where the real meat
5 and potatoes of the disclosure is. That is about each
6 individual specific deal. So, for example, it's been one of
7 those for 2006-5, a separate one for 2007-2, a separate one for
8 2006-4. While all of these share the same base prospectus and
9 so, of course, the plaintiff is correct on what the base
10 prospectus says -- it is at such a general level and a general
11 nature that we don't believe that is really what the Court
12 should be looking at. The real disclosures are in the
13 prospectus supplement where it really tells you what the deal
14 is about. And those you will see, your Honor, are quite
15 different from deal to deal.

16 THE COURT: Where does the Second Circuit in the
17 Goldman or the ANICA case focus in on the different language in
18 the supplemental prospectus?

19 MR. ECKAS: If I could just have a second, your Honor?

20 THE COURT: Yes.

21 (Pause)

22 MR. ECKAS: I am reading on page 20 now, your Honor.
23 My colleagues was able to find it more quickly than I was.
24 It's on star 12 of the Westlaw cite and the quotation talks
25 about whether the same set of concerns standard and it says:

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1 In the context of claims alleging injury based on
2 misrepresentations, the misconduct alleged will almost always
3 be the same, the making of a false or misleading statement.
4 But whether that implicates the same set of concerns depends on
5 the nature and content of the specific misrepresentation
6 alleged. So at some very general level, your Honor, we do
7 agree that the Exhibit 9 does show that, yes, there are
8 allegedly false or misleading statements but it doesn't go to
9 the nature or content of what really is behind the deals. We
10 believe you have to look to the prospectus supplement for that.

11 THE COURT: But you'd agree with me that the Second
12 Circuit when they came around to making the decision in
13 deciding which of the 17 trusts could be sued on or which the
14 ANICA IPEW had standing, they didn't look at the prospecti so
15 much as they looked at the common originators. At least that's
16 the way I read it.

17 MR. ECKAS: Your Honor, our analysis was there's one
18 exception but other than that they looked at common
19 misrepresentations.

20 THE COURT: All right.

21 MR. ECKAS: And we have a list of those. Let me just
22 quickly find out for your Honor.

23 THE COURT: Sure.

24 (Pause)

25 MR. ECKAS: It's in Footnote 12, your Honor, on page

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1 21.

2 THE COURT: Yes. However, plaintiff lacks standing to
3 assert claims on behalf of purchasers from some certificates
4 from the other ten trusts because the only way you can explain
5 is because they didn't have Greenpoint or Wells Fargo as the
6 originators. So footnote 12 identifies the ten trusts if we
7 have the same footnote. Do we have the same footnote? The ten
8 trusts as to which they don't have standing.

9 (Pause)

10 MR. ECKAS: The one that they didn't arrive according.
11 To us, your Honor, is 2007-4F and 2007-AT1.

12 THE COURT: There's ten of them including those two.

13 MR. ECKAS: Right. They had the same originator but
14 not the same representation.

15 THE COURT: OK. All right. But do you agree with
16 Mr. Laitman that all four of these the issues here have the
17 same originators?

18 MR. ECKAS: We would agree that there is at least one
19 overlapping originator between each of the transactions. Those
20 are not disclosed in the prospectus or prospectus supplements
21 because often they are in very small amounts but, yes, we do
22 agree it is factually correct that you can find one, at least
23 one loan that overlaps in each transaction.

24 THE COURT: Well, with respect to 2006-5 which is the
25 one that I allowed to proceed, is there any originator other

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1 than New Century?

2 MR. ECKAS: Yes, your Honor. There are hundreds. New
3 Century originated, approximately, 33 percent of the loans
4 underlying that transaction. The rest were originated from a
5 very large variety of sources.

6 THE COURT: Did New Century participate in the
7 underwriting for 2006-6 or 2006-4? Is it the chart on page
8 five?

9 MR. ECKAS: That is the one. We know that they were
10 in 2007-2.

11 THE COURT: Correct.

12 MR. ECKAS: Four and six, I do not know the answer to
13 that, your Honor.

14 THE COURT: Mr. Laitman, what's the answer?

15 MR. ECKAS: They were not disclosed but there is an
16 answer to your question. I just don't know.

17 THE COURT: Mr. Laitman, do you know?

18 MR. LAITMAN: No. As of what we know now because we
19 didn't get discovery New Century was not.

20 THE COURT: New Century was not involved in 20006-4
21 and 2006-6, correct?

22 MR. LAITMAN: We don't know that right now.

23 THE COURT: OK.

24 MR. LAITMAN: I am not trying to be evasive but when
25 we get the discovery like we did I know 6-5 we see the complete

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1 list but until we get that we just know what's in the public
2 filing.

3 THE COURT: All right. So you want me to focus then,
4 Mr. Eckas, in your argument on the disclosures?

5 MR. ECKAS: Yes, your Honor. We believe what is meant
6 by the same common concerns really is if the same alleged
7 misrepresentations were made. Even if you didn't buy in this
8 that offering if the misrepresentations are the same by the
9 same originators you should be allowed to represent that class
10 anyway.

11 THE COURT: Well, let me ask you, the
12 misrepresentations is as the Second Circuit found across all 17
13 trusts were pretty much the same and yet they allowed them only
14 to go forward with regard to seven of the ten. So why were ten
15 excluded if the language, the misrepresented language was all
16 the same?

17 MR. ECKAS: I don't think, your Honor, that the
18 language about originators, one, will -- correct me if I am
19 wrong -- was the same. For instance, in our case, your Honor,
20 we focused, there's language about New Century's underwriting
21 guidelines in one of the deals. There is allegations -- I am
22 sorry -- there's disclosure about New Century's bankruptcy
23 filing in another one of the deals. Another deal there's no
24 disclosure about underwriting guidelines but there is a list of
25 certain of the originators. There is a variety of different

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1 disclosures from deal to deal. In this set of cases, your
2 Honor, of the disclosure are not all the same.

3 THE COURT: OK. I don't want to cut you off then.
4 You want to say something about the statute of limitations?

5 MR. ECKAS: Yes, if I may, your Honor?

6 THE COURT: Yes, please.

7 MR. ECKAS: As your Honor knows this case was filed in
8 2008.

9 THE COURT: Yes.

10 MR. ECKAS: At that time it was about one transaction
11 2006-5.

12 THE COURT: Correct, the one they purchased.

13 MR. ECKAS: Yes. And that is correct, your Honor.
14 The second -- I'm sorry -- the first amended complaint was
15 filed in 2009. And in this complaint the three additional
16 transactions were added, your Honor. No motion to dismiss was
17 made as to the original complaint because that was filed in
18 state court.

19 THE COURT: It was removed?

20 MR. ECKAS: Correct, your Honor. And then plaintiffs
21 filed an amended complaint. It was agreed we wouldn't answer
22 or move and we would do it with respect to the amended
23 complaint. We did that, your Honor. We made our standing
24 argument, the one that people generally made and accepted.
25 Your Honor accepted that argument and dismissed it.

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1 THE COURT: Yes.

2 MR. ECKAS: Time then --

3 THE COURT: Time passed.

4 MR. ECKAS: -- passed.

5 THE COURT: Judge Parker came to a different view of
6 what "standing" means.

7 MR. ECKAS: Yes. And while that time was passing
8 there was a motion to intervene as I am sure your Honor
9 recalls.

10 THE COURT: Correct.

11 MR. ECKAS: And the motion to intervene --

12 THE COURT: It was the Mississippi Carpenters.

13 MR. ECKAS: Correct. And it would have cured the
14 standing issue with respect to two of the three transactions
15 that were made. Your Honor, we briefed it fully and your Honor
16 did --

17 THE COURT: That's my December ruling.

18 MR. ECKAS: It is, your Honor. Give you the exact
19 date if that would be helpful. December 15, 2010.

20 THE COURT: Correct.

21 MR. ECKAS: And in essence, what this comes down to,
22 your Honor, is those claims were untimely unless they were
23 entitled to relation back because the time had passed. Now,
24 you found that there was no relation back because the new
25 transactions that were sought to be added were no where

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1 mentioned, discussed, alluded to, etc., in the first complaint.
2 The first complaint was just about the transaction.

3 THE COURT: But they proceeded on the error that's now
4 apparent after Judge Parker that Mr. Laitman and his client
5 needed standing and he had to purchase and I wasn't going to
6 allow Mr. Laitman to bring in a new group to cure the
7 deficiency that existed as of that time. But if we had the
8 decision from the Second Circuit of 2012 back in 2010 the
9 result may very well have been different. I guess that's
10 Mr. Laitman's argument. You are supposed to put time back in
11 the bottle and allow us to recalculate.

12 MR. ECKAS: Maybe I'm misunderstanding but as I as I
13 understand plaintiff's reply brief, your Honor, I don't think
14 they took issue with everything I've said but they said, but,
15 the fact that I am overlooking is they say the law changed,
16 right. So the law changed that there is a different standard
17 now for when the statute of limitations begins running.

18 I think people would agree that assuming it's inquiry
19 notice, that the time had run. If it is the standard, however,
20 that was announced in Merck and Pontiac then it may not have
21 run. And the issue for us, your Honor, comes down to whether
22 Merck and Pontiac extend to 33 Act cases, as well as 34 Act
23 cases. We believe they do not.

24 Merck, of course, was a 1934 Act case. And the
25 Court's primary discussion in Merck was about scienter and

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Argument

1 about the additional things one must allege and prove for 34
2 Act cases

3 THE COURT: What do you think about Mr. Laitman's
4 argument that eight district court judges can't be wrong?

5 MR. ECKAS: I believe your Honor, in fact, took the
6 opposite view and your Honor found that there was a difference
7 between 33 Act and 34 Act cases and that your Honor --

8 THE COURT: And not one of the eight?

9 MR. ECKAS: It is not one of the eight. Your Honor is
10 not alone in that regard. There are a number of other courts
11 that have done that as well. I understand your Honor's
12 decision is currently on appeal. I have looked at the
13 decisions by these eight other district judges. Often they
14 have not much analysis behind it. We believe the thinking and
15 analysis of putting the 33 Act and the 34 Act into two
16 different buckets makes sense primarily because the pleading
17 standards are so different. 34 Act is much harder to plead.
18 You know you have to plead and prove scienter, reliance, loss
19 causation and you have Rule 9B.

20 And to our way of thinking, your Honor, it makes sense
21 to have a somewhere more relaxed view about when the statute of
22 limitations would begin to run when there's a much higher
23 pleading standard. When you only have notice pleading as you
24 do for Section 11 we believe that the standard inquiry notice
25 should continue to apply.

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Argument

1 THE COURT: OK.

2 MR. ECKAS: The only other thing I would ask your
3 Honor is assuming that the new standard set forth in Merck and
4 Pontiac does apply another way I guess of saying is, should
5 your Honor's decision be overruled, we think the plaintiff's
6 knew plenty at that time that they could have made the
7 necessary allegations and we say that based on the complaint
8 that they filed.

9 In that complaint, your Honor, among other things they
10 say and again this was in 2008, that disclosures had emerged
11 that New Century routinely disregarded the underwriting
12 guidelines and caused the defendant agent, rating agencies not
13 to recognize the true value of the collateral. They go on and
14 say at several other points throughout the brief that it had
15 come to light that New Century had deficient lending practices
16 that it caused it to shut down and to go into bankruptcy. It
17 says, we now know that the underwriting standards were,
18 actually, lucent prior to and during the periods in which the
19 offerings took place. There are a number of places. They
20 point to local newspapers articles where they interviewed
21 employees of New Century who said they were under pressure to
22 approve more loan rather than not.

23 In the complaint originally filed, your Honor, the
24 plaintiffs say that they have plenty of material that they
25 believe proves what was going on at New Century at that time.

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Argument

1 So while it may, indeed, be true that between 2008 and 2009
2 more information became available and that's, certainly, the
3 case, more did become available but that doesn't mean there
4 wasn't enough available --

5 THE COURT: From an earlier time?

6 MR. ECKAS: Yes.

7 THE COURT: Let me ask -- are you finished now,
8 Mr. Eckas?

9 MR. ECKAS: Yes.

10 THE COURT: Let me ask you one question. If New
11 Century is the originator for both 2006-5 and 2007-2, tell me
12 again why you say that 2007-2 should not be included in the
13 amended pleading.

14 MR. ECKAS: Yes, your Honor. First I should say they
15 are one of the originators for each of those transactions.
16 There are many other originators as well but they are one of
17 them. And the reason we think they shouldn't be included is
18 the discloses about New Century are not similar to each other
19 at all.

20 THE COURT: And the supplemental prospectus?

21 MR. ECKAS: Correct, your Honor. 2007 focuses on the
22 fact that New Century had been placed into bankruptcy and on
23 the general downturn in the housing market. Whereas, 2006-5
24 focused on the underwriting standards in place and the various
25 exceptions that may be made to those.

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Argument

1 THE COURT: Anything else you want to say?

2 MR. ECKAS: Not at this time, your Honor.

3 THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. Eckas.

4 Mr. Laitman, before you go --

5 Mr. Eckas, you said one of my decisions was on appeal.

6 I suppose I should pay more attention to this but where is it
7 on appeal and what's the status of the appeal?

8 MR. ECKAS: It's fully briefed and argued. It was
9 argued in October. It's the Marshall Freidus decision against
10 Thompson. I'm sorry. Excuse me. It's the Barclay Bank
11 decision, your Honor. And, yes, it's been appealed, your
12 Honor.

13 THE COURT: Thank you very much.

14 OK. Mr. Laitman.

15 MR. LAITMAN: Your Honor, I just want to go to this
16 issue that inquiry notice was applied these would be
17 time-barred and I think it would be just, make it much clearer
18 if I would just refer your Honor first to Exhibit Number 3 in
19 the affidavit of Mr. Eisenkraft. I am sorry. Exhibit Number
20 1.

21 THE COURT: OK.

22 MR. LAITMAN: Exhibit Number One shows the right of
23 all of the Triple A tranches. And what the significance of
24 that is the Triple A tranches made up 93 percent of the entire
25 offering. That's 766 million of the total 825 million bonds

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Argument

1 sold. Under inquiry notice for them to prevail and to have the
2 claims dismissed on statute of limitation ground on a motion to
3 dismiss, there must be uncontroverted evidence of the
4 misstatements and omissions as of March 23, 2008 because the
5 amended complaint that asserted claims on this offering 2007-2
6 was March 23, 2009. So for them to prevail you have to have
7 uncontroverted evidence on March 23, 2008 that a reasonable
8 investor would have known the misstatements.

9 The downgrade, there are only rating agencies, Moody's
10 and SMP that rated these bonds. As of March 23, 2008, both of
11 them had the highest, maintained the highest Triple A rating on
12 all of the Triple A bonds. That's 93 percent of the offering.
13 No reasonable investor -- and Mr. Eckas cited general events
14 about New Century but a bond holder would never begin to think
15 that those events impact their bonds if 93 percent of the bonds
16 are still Triple A by both Moody's and SMP.

17 THE COURT: So the rating agencies then control when
18 people that have more -- have inquiry notice, is that it?

19 MR. ECKAS: Well, for these bonds -- and your Honor on
20 the motion to dismiss it was critical for the claim to survive
21 the motion to dismiss that the bonds were downgraded
22 dramatically to junk but if you look at Exhibit 1, look at the
23 difference. On March 23, 2009 one year later, one year later,
24 look at the bonds. They've collapsed.

25 THE COURT: March 23, 2008?

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Argument

1 MR. LAITMAN: Yes, March 23, 2008, both Moody's and
2 SMP were 93 percent of the offering 80 -- 766 of the 820
3 million bonds, these were the highest rated bonds maximum
4 safety.

5 THE COURT: When did the ratings change.

6 MR. LAITMAN: It's not until you get to March 23, 2009
7 a year later, well within the period that year that they've
8 collapsed to junk level bonds. So no reasonable investor --
9 forget about uncontroverted evidence. There is no evidence
10 that a reasonable investor would have known that the bonds,
11 that there was a potential misstatement because they're sitting
12 with bonds that are Triple A.

13 THE COURT: That was when you brought your initial
14 lawsuit too, wasn't it?

15 MR. LAITMAN: Well, the ratings were different for the
16 06-5. This is the 07-2 and one of the reasons --

17 THE COURT: What were the ratings when you brought the
18 lawsuit on the 06-5?

19 MR. LAITMAN: They were different.

20 THE COURT: What were they?

21 MR. LAITMAN: I don't have them but they were lower.
22 You didn't have all the Triple As at the highest maximum safety
23 level. And so under inquiry notice -- and, your Honor, as I
24 said your intervention decision you adopted that December 20,
25 2007 date based on the date that the bonds in those two

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Argument

1 offerings which is not this one, dropped to junk. And my only
2 point to you with Exhibit Number One is that didn't occur for
3 the 07-2. So under inquiry notice using the exact same
4 analysis there is no way that the statute of limitation defeats
5 the 2007-2 claims.

6 THE COURT: Right. OK. Mr. Laitman, thank you.

7 Mr. Eckas, you wanted to say --

8 MR. LAITMAN: Your Honor, I just wanted to make one
9 other point going on the other point about Goldman if I could?

10 THE COURT: Very briefly.

11 MR. LAITMAN: OK. The Goldman complaint and I would
12 just cite, we annexed the Goldman complaint as Exhibit 8 to the
13 Eisenkraft affidavit. And if you go to paragraph 35, it's a
14 very instructive paragraph because it defeats this argument
15 that you have to have pro-sups that New Century has to have the
16 exact same disclosures. And by the way, the underwriting
17 standards were virtually the same. This additional point about
18 bankruptcy has nothing to do with the underwriting. It's
19 another -- it's in a different section of the prospectus.

20 But paragraph 35 is important because it identifies in
21 the Goldman complaint three prospectuses where there was an
22 explicit pro-sup disclosure of the guidelines and one where
23 there was not and but what the Second Circuit said that all of
24 them, all of them, there's standing to represent all of them
25 because --

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Argument

1 THE COURT: You cite that at page nine of your rely
2 brief, correct?

3 MR. LAITMAN: Correct. OK. Mr. Eckas.

4 MR. ECKAS: Yes, your Honor. I would just like to
5 address the point of whether or not people know when bonds are
6 downgraded. Obviously, we can't know what everyone in the
7 class knew but I can tell you at least with respect to 2006-5
8 New Jersey Carpenters Funds knew on February 13, 2008.

9 THE COURT: That's when they filed their lawsuit?

10 MR. ECKAS: It was before they filed their lawsuit,
11 your Honor. They were informed in writing by their investment
12 advisor that their holdings in 2006-5 and they held senior
13 tranche, were downgraded from Triple A to B and that they no
14 longer meet the minimum credit quality standard of the fund.
15 So, obviously, I don't know what everyone in the class knew,
16 your Honor, but at least with respect to 2006-5 we have
17 testimony from Mr. Laughenberg and we have a document that
18 they've produced.

19 THE COURT: How does that help you? Doesn't that make
20 Mr. Laitman's point? You got the information the bonds were
21 downgraded from Triple A to B. They sold the bonds. I don't
22 know whether they sold the bonds but they filed the lawsuit but
23 none of the other trusts were downgraded at that time.

24 MR. ECKAS: Well, the ones in the other -- were in the
25 same time period, your Honor.

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Argument

1 THE COURT: They were? So Chart One Exhibit One is in
2 error?

3 MR. ECKAS: Just so you understand, your Honor,
4 obviously, Alliance Bernstein didn't alert them to transactions
5 in which they didn't hold them investment, so this letter only
6 addresses that one.

7 THE COURT: Yes.

8 MR. ECKAS: Their exhibit one is correct, your Honor,
9 but it only addresses 2007-2 we agree is its own animal. It
10 occurred in a different space and time. The 2006 ratings, they
11 largely happened in the same time period.

12 THE COURT: Thank you very much. I appreciate it.

13 MR. ECKAS: You are welcome.

14 THE COURT: I'll get to this as quickly as I can.

15 (Adjourned)

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